

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2007/006890

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61B17/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/107526 A1 (GREENBERG ROY K [US] ET AL) 8 August 2002 (2002-08-08) the whole document -----	1-21
X	US 2005/085846 A1 (CARRISON HAROLD F [US] ET AL) 21 April 2005 (2005-04-21) figures -----	1
A	US 5 098 440 A (HILLSTEAD RICHARD A [US]) 24 March 1992 (1992-03-24) figures -----	1-21
A	US 2003/225419 A1 (LIPPITT ROBERT G [US] ET AL) 4 December 2003 (2003-12-04) figures -----	1-21



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

8 document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 September 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report

04/10/2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Held, Günter

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2007/006890

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 2002107526	A1	08-08-2002	US 2005049612	A1	03-03-2005
			US 2004236345	A1	25-11-2004
			US 2004243174	A1	02-12-2004
US 2005085846	A1	21-04-2005	CA 2543210	A1	12-05-2005
			EP 1684646	A1	02-08-2006
			JP 2007508902	T	12-04-2007
			WO 2005041787	A1	12-05-2005
US 5098440	A	24-03-1992	NONE		
US 2003225419	A1	04-12-2003	NONE		